



Embassy of the United States of America Bujumbura, Burundi

Ambassador Dawn Liberi presents credentials to President Nkurunziza

January 18, 2013 -- Ambassador Dawn Liberi presented her diplomatic credentials to Burundi President Pierre Nkurunziza in a red-carpet ceremony at the Presidential Palace.

A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Ambassador Liberi was nominated by President Barack Obama on July 10, 2012, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on October 19.

During the credentials ceremony, Ambassador Liberi shared the official greetings of President Obama to the Government and people of Burundi. She said the United States has long been committed to a strong bilateral relationship.

“I look forward to working with the government of Burundi, civil society, the private sector and individuals to build on our past success to achieve even closer collaboration,” she said in a prepared statement following the ceremony. “Ours is a partnership based on shared democratic values and our mutual interest in promoting peace, security and prosperity here and in the region.”

She said the U.S. commitment is demonstrated by programs to improve the health of Burundians and stimulate economic growth, defense cooperation and the Embassy’s recently opened compound in Kigobe.

Although this is Ambassador Liberi’s first time living in Burundi, she has had more than 20 years of experience in five African posts (Nigeria, Uganda, Ghana, Senegal and Niger). “I am very familiar with the kind of development issues Burundi faces but recognize that the challenges in each country are distinct,” she said. “I am eager to learn more and meet with Burundians throughout the country.”